GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1404
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002
REBUILDING BUDDHA STATUES IN AFGHANISTAN
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY;RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts are being made by the Government for rebuilding the statues of Buddha destroyed by Taliban rulers in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a)-(c) Government has provided extensive humanitarian, financial and project assistance to Afghan reconstruction in diverse fields, while keeping in mind Afghan felt and priority needs. During the visit of H.E. Hamid Karzai to India on 26-27 February 2002, several areas of bilateral cooperation were identified, including in the field of preservation of heritage structures and museums.